



Victim Compensation & Government Claims Board

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor of California

Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board Members



Rosario Marin
Secretary of the State and Consumer Services Agency
and Board Chair

Ms. Marin was appointed to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's cabinet as Secretary of the State and Consumer Services Agency on January 31, 2006. She previously chaired the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Ms. Marin has dedicated her life to public service. She has held numerous civic positions, including serving as the 41st Treasurer of the United States and as Mayor of the City of Huntington Park.



John Chiang
State Controller and Board Member

State Controller John Chiang serves as an ex officio member of the board. Mr. Chiang was elected in November 2006 to serve as California's Chief Financial Officer. As State Controller, he presides over the Franchise Tax Board and is a member of the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) Board and the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) Board.



Michael A. Ramos
San Bernardino County District Attorney and Board Member

Mr. Ramos was appointed to the Board on January 23, 2004, by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Mr. Ramos was elected San Bernardino County District Attorney in 2002, and re-elected in 2006. Previously, he served as a deputy district attorney in San Bernardino County for 13 years, four of which were in the Major Crimes Unit.

VCGCB Executive Officer



Karen McGagin

Ms. McGagin began her tenure as the Board's Executive Officer in May 2004. From 1997 to 2000, Ms. McGagin chaired the Board on behalf of the Director of the Department of General Services. Previously, she held a variety of positions with the Department of General Services and the Department of Consumer Affairs.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board (VCGCB) is pleased to present its annual report for 2006-07.

2006-07 has been a year of change and significant achievement for the VCGCB. The Board welcomed a new member on January 1st. John Chiang, the newly elected State Controller, comes to the Board with a long history of public service. His distinguished career includes serving as the Chairman of the State Board of Equalization.

In Fiscal Year 2006-07, the Victim Compensation Program (VCP) received more than 48,000 applications and paid nearly \$75 million for victim benefits. Through partnerships with counties and other state agencies to collect court-ordered restitution from offenders, the Board helped thousands of victims benefit from their right to restitution. During the fiscal year, we collected more than \$66 million in restitution fines and fees from offenders that in turn funded compensation for victims.

In January, the Board relocated its offices to a more contemporary and cost-effective location in downtown Sacramento. Our new facilities provide a centralized work space, lower lease costs and modern technology services.

2007 marked the silver anniversary of the Victims' Bill of Rights. Twenty-five years ago, Californians passed Proposition 8, which established rights for California crime victims and incorporated them in the California Constitution. Proposition 8 gave victims a voice in the criminal justice system, and it spelled out a victim's right to recover losses through restitution. Thanks to the Victims' Bill of Rights and other state and federal laws, crime victims and their supporters have made significant progress.

The VCP successfully launched a robust, web-based claims management system that brings the VCP into the 21st century. With this cutting edge technology, the Board is on its way to paperless processes and unprecedented high levels of customer service. The new system is being successfully rolled out to 21 Joint Powers Verification Units throughout the state.

The VCGCB initiated the transition of its call center into a full service customer service section. This enhancement will help us better meet the needs of victims of violent crime and the organizations, agencies and licensed care providers who deliver services to them.

Several victim compensation benefits were enhanced due to new legislation that went into effect on January 1, 2007. The new benefits affect the areas of childcare, crime scene clean-up, home security, funeral and burial expenses and relocation. They are detailed in this report.

Also providing valuable assistance to the people of California is the Government Claims Program (GCP). During Fiscal Year 2006-07, the GCP assisted nearly 7,000 claimants with the processing of their claims against the state.

We are grateful to the dedicated staff of the VCGCB and our partners for their outstanding efforts on the significant accomplishments that were made this year.

Sincerely,

Karen McGagin
Executive Officer

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OUR VISION, MISSION AND STRATEGIC PLAN

Vision

Excellence as our standard.

Mission

To serve our claimants and stakeholders through effective assistance and timely resolution of claims.

We carry out our mission in the following ways:

- Ensuring that claims are handled promptly, fairly, and consistently.
- Educating the public and partnering with our stakeholders to ensure public access to services.
- Using the best technology available to provide accurate and timely resolution of claims.
- Working with partners in the victim services community to ensure that victims have access to all information and resources available to them.
- Maintaining the fiscal stability of the VCGCB to ensure that the Restitution Fund is stable and that current and future needs of victims are met, and that the Government Claims Program has sufficient financial support to meet its needs.

Strategic Plan

The VCGCB is committed to its strategic plan which outlines four goals: excellence in customer service; continued funding stability; excellence in information technology; and positive workplace environment. Each goal is further defined with specific objectives and an operational plan that is regularly updated with revised implementation steps.

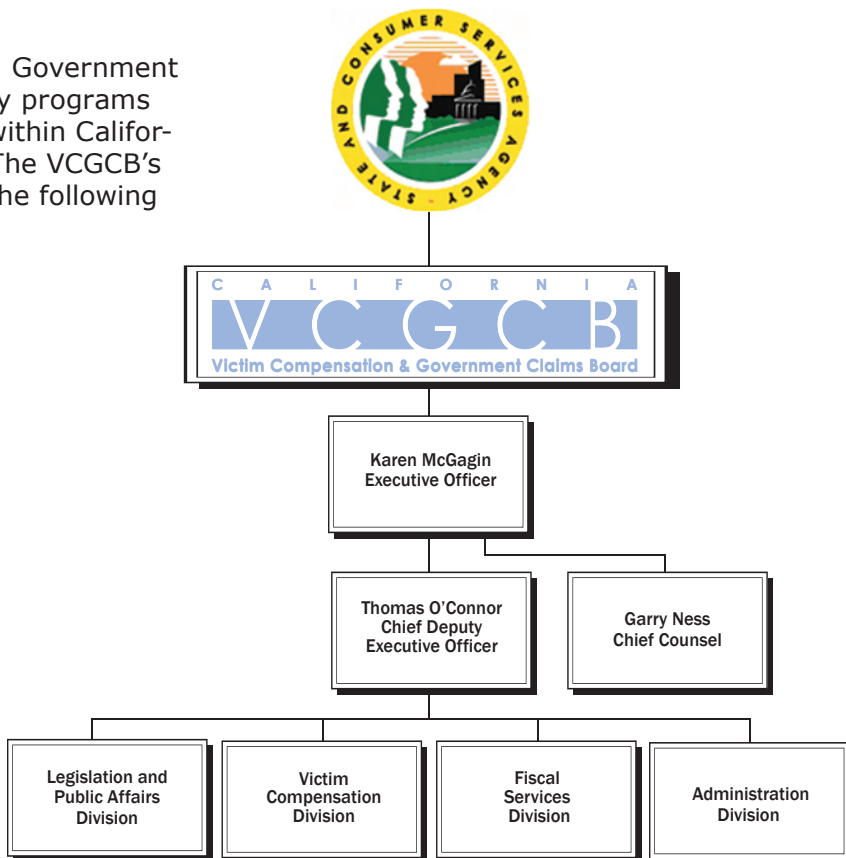
WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO

Responsibilities of the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board

The three-member Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board provides oversight for the many programs and functions entrusted to this department within California's State and Consumer Services Agency. The VCGCB's diverse portfolio of responsibilities includes the following programs:

The Victim Compensation Program

The Victim Compensation Program (VCP) provides compensation for victims of violent crime who are injured or threatened with injury. Among the crimes covered are domestic violence, child abuse, sexual and physical assault, homicide, robbery, drunk driving and vehicular manslaughter. If a person meets eligibility criteria, the VCP will compensate many types of services when the costs are not covered by other sources. Eligible services include medical and dental care, mental health services, income loss, funeral expenses, rehabilitation and relocation. Funding for the VCP comes from restitution fines and orders, penalty assessments levied on persons convicted of crimes and traffic offenses, and federal matching funds.



The Government Claims Program

The Government Claims Program (GCP) helps resolve claims against State agencies and employees for monetary damages. In most cases, a person who is considering suing the state is required to first seek an administrative remedy by filing a claim with the VCGCB. Typical claims involve state vehicle accidents, contract disputes, and damage to property. When a claim is received, GCP staff investigate and make a recommendation to the Board regarding the disposition of the claim. The Board either rejects the claim or orders the responsible state agency to pay the claim. Payment may either come from the agency's existing budget or through an annual legislative appropriation. The GCP is self-funded, supported by a \$25 filing fee and a surcharge paid by state agencies on approved claims.

Revenue Recovery

A highly effective revenue recovery program focuses on collecting restitution payments and reimbursements. Through innovative efforts, the VCGCB has created partnerships that increase the likelihood of restitution collection. Additionally, the Board has established practices that result in efficient recovery of payments when other sources are available to the victims to cover crime-related losses. One key restitution program funds positions in counties to work with the district attorneys, probation officers and courts to ensure that restitution is ordered in all applicable cases. The VCGCB also funds positions in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to collect on restitution orders, and works closely with the Franchise Tax Board through its Court-Ordered Debt Collections program. Through these methods, the VCGCB receives an average of \$5.5 million a month in restitution payments.

ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS

Bid Protests

California law provides that an unsuccessful bidder may protest the award of a state contract, if the bidder believes they were the low bidder meeting specifications or should have been selected based on the criteria in the bid request document. Protests are filed with the Department of General Services (DGS), which forwards them to the Board. Protests are assigned to a hearing officer, who prepares a proposed decision or recommendation for consideration by the Board.

Claims of Erroneously Convicted Felons

Under California law, a person erroneously convicted of a felony and incarcerated in a California state prison may file a claim against the state for pecuniary loss with the VCGCB within six months from the date he or she was acquitted, pardoned, or released from state prison. In order to be successful, the person filing the claim must prove by a preponderance of the evidence, the following three elements: (1) he or she did not commit the crime or that the crime never took place; (2) he or she did not intentionally or negligently contribute to his or her arrest or conviction; and (3) he or she suffered a monetary loss because of the incarceration. If the claim is granted, the Board will make a recommendation for a legislative appropriation in the amount of \$100 for each day of incarceration served after conviction. Such payments are made from the State General Fund.

California State Employees Charitable Campaign

The Board assists with the administration of the California State Employees Charitable Campaign. This campaign provides a single, coordinated fund-raising drive that allows state employees to direct regular contributions from their paychecks to any of the hundreds of participating charitable organizations. Each year, the Board certifies the eligibility of charities and selects organizations to manage the campaign in various regions throughout the state. All applicants must certify their exempt status under California Revenue and Taxation Code section, 23701(d) and United States Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3). Furthermore, they must also certify compliance with the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, Part 2.8 (commencing with Section 12900). Through the 2006 campaign, state employees donated \$7.6 million to various charitable organizations.

Compensation for Good Samaritans

The Board administers the provisions of California law that provide for compensation to Good Samaritans who suffer injury or loss as a result of their efforts to prevent a crime, apprehend a criminal, or rescue a person in immediate danger of injury or death. The immediate family or dependents of a Good Samaritan who dies as a direct result of their meritorious actions can also seek compensation.

To qualify, the Good Samaritan must be a member of the public, not a public-safety worker acting within the course and scope of their employment, and must not have received compensation otherwise. The claim must include in-

formation such as details regarding the meritorious actions and losses suffered, and it must be supported by a statement from a public safety or law enforcement agency. Such an agency can also file a claim for compensation on behalf of the Good Samaritan or survivors. Claims cannot exceed \$10,000.

Legislative Per Diem

California law requires the Board to establish daily living expense compensation rates (commonly known as per diem) for members of the Legislature that are not less than the rate provided to federal employees traveling to Sacramento. The per diem rates for members of the Legislature are changed whenever the federal rates change.

Missing Children Reward Program

The California Legislature created the Missing Children Reward Program to assist local law enforcement agencies and other parties involved in the identification and recovery of missing children in California.

The program allows rewards of up to \$500 for individuals providing information leading to the location of any child listed in the California Department of Justice (DOJ) Missing Persons System database. Awards are made upon the recommendation of the DOJ. As a condition to the award, an amount equal to or greater in non-state funds must first have been offered for information leading to the location of the missing child.

Travel Expenses for Elected State Officials and Judicial Branch Employees

The Board sets the rates at which elected state officials and employees of the judicial branch are compensated for travel expenses.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2006-2007

During the 2006-07 fiscal year, the VCGCB undertook a number of initiatives that made an immediate difference in operations or laid the foundation for the organization's future success. The significant achievements summarized below helped the VCGCB to more effectively provide services to claimants and stakeholders.

• **CaRES System Rolled Out to Counties**

During the 2006-07 fiscal year, the VCGCB took its showcase information technology project, the California Compensation and Restitution System (CaRES), from processing its first claims to the first stages of an ambitious statewide rollout. This state-of-the-art, web-based automated claims processing system for the Victim Compensation Program (VCP) not only improves service to victims and providers through advanced technology, it brings revolutionary changes to the VCP's business processes. During the year, developers expanded CaRES' capabilities, allowing it to process claims from initial intake to final payment. A variety of user-friendly features were added to the system, and performance was improved with upgraded server hardware. CaRES passed its greatest milestone during the final quarter of the year, when the first three pilot counties began using the system locally. Preparations were made for deployment at the remaining 17 counties that jointly administer the VCP. When fully implemented, CaRES is expected to generate technology savings of \$1.5 million per year and result in improved customer service through faster claims processing, an enhanced problem-resolution capability, and instant access to paperless claim records.

• **Victim Compensation Program**

The VCP delivered nearly \$75 million in payments to victims of violent crime during the fiscal year, an increase of 13.6 percent compared to the previous year. The increased payments can be attributed to actions taken by the three-member Board in 2006 to expand access to care for victims by increasing reimbursement rates for mental health providers, increasing the number of mental health sessions, and raising funeral/burial benefits. Increased efforts to publicize the VCP and legislative changes enhancing benefits for victims were also contributing factors. At 48,812, the total of applications received by the program was up just over 4 percent. The total of applications processed by the VCP was also up more than 2 percent to 50,339. The VCP moved from an old mainframe claims processing computer system to the new automated CaRES sys-

tem, and it also transitioned to a new business model. Instead of handling the same claim from initial application to final payment, VCP staff switched to focusing on handling many claims at discreet steps in the process, such as determination of a claimant's eligibility or benefit payments. During this transitional year, the VCP continued its progress at processing claims more efficiently, reducing the time for determining a claimant's eligibility from 64 to 62 days compared to the prior fiscal year.

• **Revenue Recovery**

The VCGCB received an average of \$5.5 million a month in restitution collections because of partnerships with counties, the Franchise Tax Board, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). The VCGCB partners with CDCR to focus on restitution collection from offenders. Criminal Restitution Compacts with counties expanded from 21 to 25 during the fiscal year, strengthening our working relationships with district attorneys. These expanded partnerships facilitate the imposition of restitution orders against criminal offenders through coordination with prosecutors, probation officers and the courts. The payments help fund compensation for crime victims.

• **Relocation to New Offices**

The VCGCB relocated its headquarters offices to 400 R Street in Sacramento in January 2007. The move not only provided a more efficient work environment but will save nearly \$400,000 a year in leasing costs. The new site unified all employees on two floors, increasing opportunities for collaboration and providing an upgraded technology infrastructure.

• **Outreach Activities**

The VCGCB undertook a variety of outreach initiatives during the fiscal year to publicize the Victim Compensation Program and educate key stakeholders. Among the highlights: The Board hosted the Western Regional Conference of the National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards; co-hosted the "Symposium on Crime Victims' Rights – The Third Wave" at the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law; conducted a bus shelter poster outreach pilot project in several Los Angeles County high-crime areas; and teamed up with allied agencies and county partners to celebrate National Crime Victims Rights Week in April 2007 with a variety of events statewide.

IMPORTANT LEGISLATION IN FY 06-07

Governor Schwarzenegger signed several pieces of legislation that went into effect on January 1, 2007. They made the following enhancements to victim benefits:

• **Childcare Pilot Project**

Under this pilot, the VCP may reimburse the licensed child-care expenses necessarily incurred by a victim or derivative victim as a direct result of a crime that resulted in physical injury or death. This benefit cannot be received in addition to the income or support loss benefit. The cost for all affected children per crime cannot exceed \$5,000, and the period of time covered cannot exceed six months, although the time does not have to be continuous. The new law requires that only licensed caregivers be used. The charge for such services must be consistent with rates for other children cared for by the caregiver. If the caregiver does not take care of other children, the rate cannot exceed \$200 per week for one child or \$400 per week for two or more children. The three-year pilot project will allow the Victim Compensation Program to study the impact, effectiveness and cost of offering the benefit.

• **Home security**

Previously, only a living victim could receive reimbursement for the costs of enhancing home security, and only when a crime occurred in the home of the victim. The enhancement of this benefit provides that survivors who had been living with a victim who was killed in the home may also be eligible to receive reimbursement. In addition, the requirement that the qualifying crime must have occurred in the residence where the security enhancements are installed has been eliminated. This change allows victims of assault and stalking to be eligible for home security costs. The maximum benefit amount of \$1,000 remains unchanged.

• **Crime scene cleanup**

Previously, a victim death must have occurred in a residence in order for the owner of the residence to be eligible for reimbursement for professional crime scene cleanup services. If a victim was attacked and survived, the law did not allow the individual who incurred the cleanup expense to be reimbursed. The enhanced benefit allows the Victim Compensation Program to reimburse the cost of crime scene cleanup when any eligible violent crime occurs in a residence that requires the services of a "registered trauma scene management practitioner." Another new law allows crime scene cleanup reimbursement when the victim was a felon as long as the person receiving the reimbursement is not a felon. The maximum benefit amount of \$1,000 remains unchanged.

• **Funeral/Burial Expenses**

In general, felons are not eligible for benefits under the Victim Compensation Program. However, as of January 1st, funeral and burial expenses may be reimbursed when the victim is a felon as long as the person being reimbursed is not a felon.

• **Relocation expenses**

In addition to clarifying that only one victim per crime may claim relocation expenses, this new law provides that more than one move may be covered, as long as expenses do not exceed a total of \$2,000.

VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM NEW APPLICATIONS BY TYPE OF CRIME

Type of Crime	New Applications
Assault	21,346
Child Physical & Sexual Abuse	11,529
Homicide	5,366
Sexual Assault - Adult	3,296
Other Crimes	2,992
Robbery	1,997
Other Vehicle Crimes	1,180
Driving Under the Influence	1,106
Total:	48,812

VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM FINANCIAL ACTIVITY (IN MILLIONS)

Revenue

Restitution Fines and Fees	\$59.9
Penalty Assessments	\$51.1
Restitution Orders	\$5.2
Civil or Criminal Violations	\$1.8
Liens on Civil Suits	\$1.2
Federal VOCA Grant Draw Down	\$25.3
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$0.3

Total FY 2006-2007 Revenue **\$144.8**

Expenditures

Total Claims Payments ¹	\$74.6
Adjustments	\$0.3

Adjusted Claims Payments **\$74.9**

Program Costs

Salaries and Benefits	\$20.2
Joint Powers Contracts	\$10.9
Criminal Restitution Compact Contracts	\$3.1
Operating Expenses ²	\$8.3

Total Program Costs **\$42.5**

Special Appropriations

Ten Percent Rebate Program	\$4.7
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Total Expenditures **\$122.1**

¹ Adjustments represent returned checks and payments. Some returned checks are subsequently reissued.

² Funding for the UCSF Trauma Recovery Center is included in this category.

VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM

The Victim Compensation Program (VCP) can help pay unreimbursed expenses that result when a violent crime occurs.

- **Who:** Victims of crime and “derivative victims” may be eligible for assistance. A “derivative victim” is an individual who suffers an economic loss or expense as a result of injury or death to a victim. “Derivative victims” may include a spouse or domestic partner, child, parent, sibling, grandparent, grandchild or someone who lives in the household.
- **What:** The VCP may assist with the cost of medical and dental treatment, mental health services, funeral and burial expenses, home security, residential crime scene cleanup and emergency relocation. If a person is disabled as a result of the crime, the VCP also assists with wage loss, dependent support loss, job retraining and home or vehicle modifications.
- **Where:** The crime occurs in California or involves a Californian who is out of state or out of the country when the crime occurs.
- **When:** People may apply for benefits when a victim has suffered a physical injury or threat of physical injury, such as domestic violence, child abuse, assault, sexual assault, molestation, homicide, robbery, drunk driving, vehicular manslaughter or other crimes that result in physical injury or threat of injury.
- **How:** If a crime results in physical injury or involves the threat of physical injury, a claimant may be eligible for assistance if he or she meets statutory criteria. These criteria include non-involvement in the crime and cooperation with law enforcement.

OUR PARTNERS

The Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board (VCGCB) works closely with prosecutors’ offices, law enforcement agencies, probation departments and nonprofit health care providers to ensure that victims and family members are aware of the Victim Compensation Program (VCP) and receive assistance in applying for funds. There are 59 Victim Witness Assistance Centers – one in each county and one in the City of Los Angeles – that can assist victims in applying for compensation. In addition, the VCGCB has 21 joint powers agreements with 20 counties and the city of Los Angeles that assist in processing claims.

The resources to assist victims do not come from tax revenues. Rather, funding for the Victim Compensation Program comes from restitution fines, orders and penalty assessments levied on persons convicted of crimes and traffic offenses in California. In addition, the program receives federal funding associated with claims made by the VCP.

To ensure adequate funding, the VCGCB focuses on the collection of restitution by collaborating with the Franchise Tax Board and partnering with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Criminal Restitution Compacts have been established with counties throughout the state to provide staff to work closely with prosecutors, probation departments and courts to ensure the imposition of restitution orders during the sentencing process. The VCGCB also disseminates information broadly and provides training to partner agencies to enhance expertise in obtaining restitution.

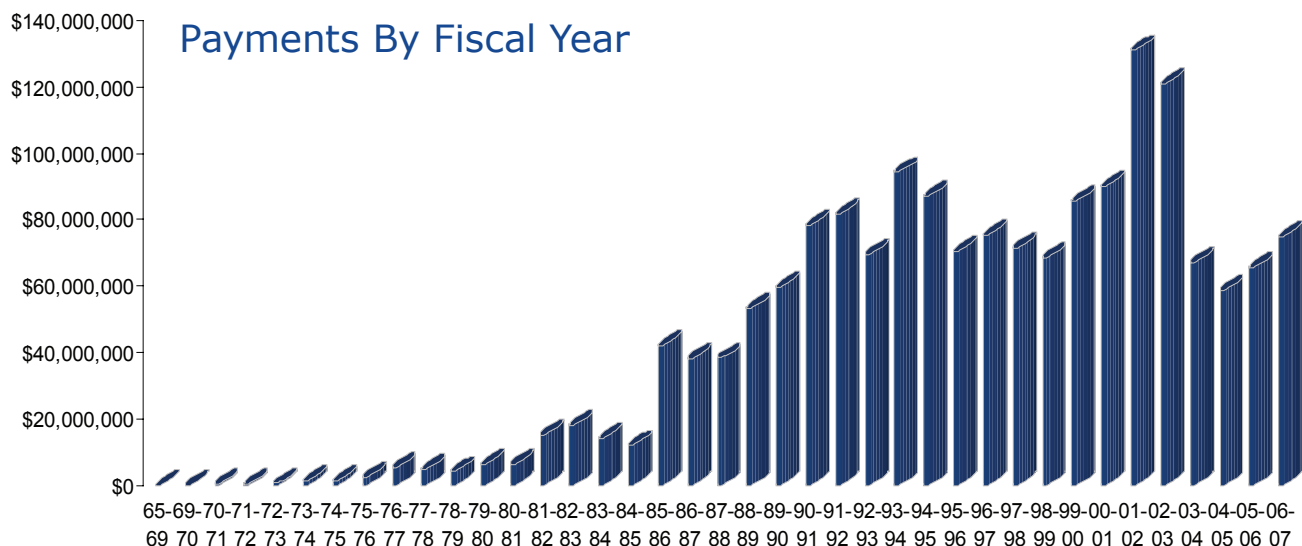
VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Applications Received by Claimant Type

Total Applications	48,812	%
Direct Victims	38,406	79%
Derivative Victims*	10,406	21%
Female Claimants	29,650	61%
Male Claimants	19,162	39%
Adult Claimants	30,205	62%
Minor Claimants	18,607	38%
Domestic Violence Claims	13,298	27%
Claimants From Victim Witness Assistance Centers	38,654	80%
Claimants With Attorney Representation	1,625	3%
Claimants Filing Directly	8,533	17%

Compensation Paid by Type of Expense

	FY 03-04	FY 04-05	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Medical & Dental	\$21,018,449	\$21,045,759	\$24,658,937	\$27,946,714
Mental Health	19,752,800	14,386,032	14,559,357	17,534,780
Wage or Support Loss	14,190,531	11,934,542	12,035,149	13,377,296
Funeral/Burial	8,474,168	8,347,945	10,291,055	12,632,168
Other Expenses**	3,602,439	3,179,457	4,473,252	3,488,757
TOTAL	\$67,038,387	\$58,893,735	\$66,017,750	\$74,979,715



* "Derivative victims" are individuals who suffer an economic loss or expense as a result of injury or death to a victim.

** "Other Expenses" include rehabilitation, relocation, and attorney payments.

VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Compensation Paid by Joint Powers Verification Units

The VCGCB contracts with 20 counties to operate 21 Joint Powers Verification Units in local Victim Witness Assistance Centers. Staff in verification units review applications and process compensation payments. Listed below is the total compensation awarded by each of the verification units during the past four fiscal years.

	FY 03-04	FY 04-05	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Alameda County	\$2,507,696	\$2,732,200	\$3,177,738	\$3,951,280
Butte County	503,605	544,953	551,834	572,523
El Dorado County	352,601	247,482	229,936	436,194
Humboldt County	323,228	247,176	192,203	207,734
Los Angeles City	4,719,667	4,905,403	5,231,861	6,172,274
Los Angeles County	9,645,047	8,367,961	10,435,777	13,183,132
Orange County	2,108,188	1,604,362	1,833,714	2,318,216
Placer County	568,644	671,499	899,827	960,574
Riverside County	2,646,679	2,648,526	3,259,564	3,190,088
Sacramento County	2,064,930	1,752,154	2,166,634	3,273,067
San Bernardino County	2,705,287	3,157,448	3,362,821	4,394,065
San Diego County	1,856,640	1,684,413	1,784,897	1,981,232
San Francisco County	1,771,081	1,820,323	2,395,234	2,443,508
San Joaquin County	2,912,302	3,109,861	2,680,090	2,834,933
San Luis Obispo County	323,824	414,660	562,947	482,582
Santa Barbara County	500,283	489,653	702,433	828,506
Santa Clara County	2,873,286	2,254,743	3,409,044	3,429,655
Santa Cruz County	557,902	654,823	1,069,638	944,128
Shasta County	1,346,452	1,404,133	1,054,070	1,279,024
Sonoma County	468,516	382,364	372,341	614,776
Tulare County	355,351	427,615	559,441	665,111
Verification Unit Totals	\$41,715,389*	\$39,637,108*	\$45,939,223*	\$54,162,600

NOTE: The table above reflects the total payments made by that county verification unit. Please note that some verification units may process applications for neighboring counties. Therefore, the county totals on this page may differ from those on pages 10-11.

*Total may include counties that are no longer a Joint Powers Verification Unit.

VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Compensation Paid and Applications Received by County Where the Crime Occurred

	FY 03-04 Compensation	FY 04-05 Compensation	FY 05-06 Compensation	FY 06-07 Compensation	FY 06-07 Applications Received
Alameda	\$3,171,985	\$2,962,101	\$3,383,261	\$4,479,764	3,067
Alpine	0	0	9,839	9,648	4
Amador	35,213	43,199	16,898	24,092	53
Butte	416,811	464,701	445,961	518,629	493
Calaveras	79,101	82,917	57,020	27,090	62
Colusa	25,898	23,457	51,305	21,646	39
Contra Costa	1,993,430	1,923,928	1,839,922	2,031,333	1,182
Del Norte	69,684	62,063	48,598	79,554	136
El Dorado	346,443	196,466	197,639	276,972	280
Fresno	1,059,784	1,049,435	822,439	824,760	668
Glenn	38,359	47,687	32,236	38,455	144
Humboldt	342,157	246,930	199,115	271,827	285
Imperial	78,695	63,888	173,648	51,707	89
Inyo	63,677	54,677	55,283	44,696	42
Kern	857,597	1,419,731	1,030,744	935,385	888
Kings	45,528	100,411	158,291	148,372	298
Lake	181,813	93,614	186,282	299,026	358
Lassen	48,610	22,731	27,835	52,849	23
Los Angeles	23,012,954	19,249,612	21,090,828	25,969,261	9,703
Madera	136,711	148,556	157,538	233,754	239
Marin	215,788	209,003	279,854	310,285	253
Mariposa	22,330	9,656	19,784	23,218	21
Mendocino	187,069	109,032	151,217	102,692	136
Merced	540,766	643,065	330,659	482,266	600
Modoc	6,349	7,115	2,552	50,943	22
Mono	21,536	10,928	2,860	5,089	5
Monterey	660,535	603,438	861,838	577,443	672
Napa	211,601	110,659	111,512	230,002	223
Nevada	136,652	117,095	171,049	190,544	114
Orange	3,000,185	2,145,123	2,506,499	2,844,657	1,891

(Continued on page 11)

NOTE: The charts on pages 10-11 indicate the total compensation paid and applications received by the county where the crime occurred. The amount of total payments does not include payments made to attorneys for represented claims. Some applications may be processed by a Joint Powers Verification Unit outside of the county where the crime occurred. Therefore, the charts on pages 10-11 may differ from the chart on page 9.

VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Compensation Paid and Applications Received by County Where the Crime Occurred

	FY 03-04 Compensation	FY 04-05 Compensation	FY 05-06 Compensation	FY 06-07 Compensation	FY 06-07 Applications Received
Placer	469,362	379,018	408,449	601,770	610
Plumas	46,527	1,890	15,304	16,379	10
Riverside	2,640,173	2,676,820	3,269,127	3,346,292	2,257
Sacramento	2,545,630	2,187,938	2,464,937	3,762,115	1,891
San Benito	73,534	45,432	75,237	58,267	62
San Bernardino	3,409,507	3,650,801	3,841,286	4,541,496	3,037
San Diego	5,332,621	3,910,274	4,742,017	4,601,542	2,991
San Francisco	2,401,764	2,404,941	3,387,347	3,150,441	2,012
San Joaquin	1,382,103	1,388,179	1,746,498	2,044,360	1,644
San Luis Obispo	328,498	396,878	498,700	434,142	498
San Mateo	989,792	761,488	1,109,438	1,053,083	723
Santa Barbara	525,182	491,084	647,211	765,203	698
Santa Clara	2,645,845	2,519,914	3,108,162	2,839,263	3,681
Santa Cruz	627,821	414,343	593,654	677,776	487
Shasta	988,633	1,110,296	706,839	835,836	1,298
Sierra	12,908	16,077	48,299	21,237	11
Siskiyou	91,870	57,151	80,086	109,786	119
Solano	590,560	377,054	411,983	505,405	621
Sonoma	515,526	447,667	404,547	667,313	860
Stanislaus	601,856	516,263	752,410	529,359	501
Sutter	195,345	121,247	128,547	75,031	207
Tehama	160,792	107,564	84,884	86,220	121
Trinity	30,579	33,043	44,562	77,311	56
Tulare	368,629	469,914	655,948	736,545	680
Tuolumne	97,337	140,216	119,853	207,817	175
Ventura	1,443,367	1,157,743	1,117,973	1,203,449	810
Yolo	212,861	153,341	303,205	196,182	257
Yuba	170,236	139,555	242,175	163,255	239
Non-CA, Other	1,132,268	419,385	586,566	357,803	266
TOTAL	\$67,038,389	\$58,716,734	\$66,017,750	\$74,820,642	48,812

GOVERNMENT CLAIMS PROGRAM

The Government Claims Program (GCP) processes claims for money or damages against the State. This function was vested in 1911 with the State Board of Control, the predecessor to the VCGCB. In general, anyone who wishes to file a lawsuit against the State or its employees for damages must first pursue an administrative remedy through the GCP claims process. Only if the claim is rejected or denied may the claim be pursued through the courts.

When the GCP receives a claim, staff determines if it meets criteria for sufficiency, jurisdiction and timeliness. Often, the program works closely with the department against which the claim is filed in an effort to resolve the matter. If a resolution cannot be reached, then staff develops a recommendation based on the case facts and input from the affected department. The three-member Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board (Board) acts on the recommendation during a public meeting where

those involved in the claim are given the opportunity to comment.

If the Board approves a claim, payment is made either by the affected department from existing funds or through an appropriation established by legislation (an annual omnibus claims bill) approved by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. The 2007 claims bill, AB 1273 (Leno), appropriated \$972,658.47 from various funds to pay 319 claims approved by the Board from April 2006 through March 2007.

If the Board denies a claim, the claimant may pursue the matter in court.

Prior to August 2004, the administrative budget for the GCP came from the State's General Fund. Legislation signed into law converted the GCP to self-funded, supported by a \$25 per claim application filing fee and a surcharge of up to 15 percent that is paid by a department when a claim filed against it is approved. Claimants who are unable to pay the \$25 filing fee may apply to have the fee waived similar to the process used by the courts to waive filing fees.

Claims Summary

	FY 03-04	FY 04-05	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Number of Claims Received	9,452	8,751	6,130	6,949

**Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board
P.O. Box 48
Sacramento, CA 95812-0048**

**Victim Compensation: 800.777.9229
Government Claims: 800.955.0045**

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